

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PWO-18019	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/JP 99/01806	International filing date (day/month/year) 05/04/1999	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 06/04/1998
Applicant FUJISAWA PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD. et al.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 5 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).
- b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :
 - contained in the international application in written form.
 - filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
 - furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
 - the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
 - the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3. Unity of invention is lacking (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE IMIDAZOLE DERIVATIVES AND THEIR COMBINATION PREPARATIONS WITH TACROLIMUS OR CYCLOSPORINS

5. With regard to the abstract,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. _____

- as suggested by the applicant.
- because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
- because this figure better characterizes the invention.

None of the figures.

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International application No.

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210

3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Present claims 1-10 relate to a method/use defined (*inter alia*) by reference to the following parameter(s):

P1: compound possessing an inhibitory activity on the production of nitric oxide.

P2: IL-2 inhibitor

P3: use for immunosuppressive reaction.

The use of these parameters in the present context is considered to lead to a lack of clarity within the meaning of Article 6 PCT. It is impossible to compare the parameters the applicant has chosen to employ with what is set out in the prior art. The lack of clarity is such as to render a meaningful complete search impossible. Consequently, the search has been restricted to the test compounds, the compounds specifically mentioned in the claims. The search has been extended, as far as the above mentioned parameters allow, to cover the general idea underlying the present application.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

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Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

Present invention is relating to imidazole derivatives possessing an inhibitory activity on the production of nitric oxide, for increasing an effect caused by IL-2 inhibitor like tacrolimus or cyclosporins, for suppressing immune reactions.

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Final Application No

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 A61K31/415 A61K31/535

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 97 45425 A (HAMASHIMA HITOSHI ;YATABE TAKUMI (JP); INOUE TAKAYUKI (JP); ITOH Y) 4 December 1997 (1997-12-04) abstract; claims 1-5 page 1, paragraph 3 -page 4, paragraph 1 ---	1-10
P,X	WO 98 27108 A (HAMASHIMA HITOSHI ;YATABE YOSHIKO & HF (JP); OHNE KAZUHIKO (JP); O) 25 June 1998 (1998-06-25) abstract page 1, paragraph 3 -page 9, paragraph 3 page 29 -page 30 page 261, paragraph 2 page 264, paragraph 2 page 267, paragraph 2 page 271, paragraph 4 page 294, paragraph 2 page 300, paragraph 2; claims 1-9 ---	1-10 -/-

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report

21 December 1999

11/01/2000

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INT'L NATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int'l Application No
PCT/JP 99/01806

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 97 32585 A (LAI CHING SAN ;MEDINOX INC (US)) 12 September 1997 (1997-09-12) page 1, line 1 -page 5, line 10 ---	1-10
X	WO 93 13055 A (WELLCOME FOUND) 8 July 1993 (1993-07-08) page 1, line 1 -page 5, line 23 ---	1-4,6-10
X	WO 93 24122 A (UNIV TEXAS ;CORNELL RES FOUNDATION INC (US); KILBOURN ROBERT G (US) 9 December 1993 (1993-12-09) abstract ---	1-4,6-10
X	WO 94 12165 A (WELLCOME FOUND ;GARVEY EDWARD PATRICK (US); TANOURY GERALD JOSEPH) 9 June 1994 (1994-06-09) page 1, paragraph 1 -page 4, paragraph 1 ---	1-4,6-10
X	WO 95 25717 A (SEARLE & CO ;CURRIE MARK G (US); WEBBER KEITH (US); TJOENG FOE S () 28 September 1995 (1995-09-28) page 5, paragraphs 3,4 ---	1-4,6-10
X	WO 95 14465 A (UNIV JOHNS HOPKINS ;US OF AMERICA NATIONAL INST O (US)) 1 June 1995 (1995-06-01) abstract page 5, line 27 -page 7, line 3 ---	1-10
X	US 5 726 156 A (FAGAN PATRICK ET AL) 10 March 1998 (1998-03-10) abstract; examples 1-20 column 12, line 35-55 -----	1-10

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Information on patent family members

Final Application No

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